



**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**MIKE KENNEALY**  
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Division of Professional Licensure**

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710  
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

**EDWARD A. PALLESCHI**  
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS  
REGULATION

**LAYLA R. D'EMILIA**  
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

TO: School Owners and Representatives,  
FROM: Layla R. D'Emilia, Commissioner, Division of Professional Licensure  
DATE: April 1, 2020  
RE: Guidance regarding Continued Operations related to COVID-19 for Occupational Schools Designated as Essential Services

---

Governor Baker has designated certain businesses and other organizations as essential services during the non-essential business emergency order. Specifically, schools where workers and instructors supporting academies or training facilities and courses or assessments for the purpose of graduating or certifying individuals during the state of emergency including healthcare personnel, cadets, and other workers who are critical to the ongoing response to COVID-19 may remain open. In addition, schools training commercial truck drivers for purposes of keeping supply chains operational.

Schools providing instruction related to these businesses may operate during the emergency. Occupational schools that teach certain programs are included in this designation. Below is a list of the specific programs that may continue to operate during the state of emergency. Please note that if a school offers one or more programs in the list below, it may only offer those programs in a classroom. Any program not on this list would still need to be offered online only. Occupational schools that may remain open must follow guidance issued by the Department of Public Health and CDC: <https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>. To the extent possible, and where allowed, schools should utilize online methods of teaching.

Essential Services List for Occupational Schools

- CDL Programs

Health Care Related programs

- Nurse Aide Certification;
- Licensed Practical Nurse;
- Home Health Aide;
- EKG Technician;
- Phlebotomy Technician;
- Cardiac Technician;
- Central Processing Technician;



- Medical Assistant;
- Hospice Aide;
- Pharmacy Technician; and,
- Patient Care Technician.

If a school has a question about why certain programs were not included in this list, then they should contact the Office of Private Occupational School Education at 617-826-5234.